

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 11 with the following:

The invention relates also to a method of operating the feeding apparatus as set forth above, said feeding apparatus having a housing and a threaded spindle housing arranged on said housing; having a adjusting motor with a threaded spindle and a control apparatus, a adjusting nut arranged on said threaded spindle and displaceable along same by a rotating of said threaded spindle; having further a eccentric disk driven by a electromotor, on which eccentric disk a connecting rod is supported which at its end remote from said eccentric disk includes a oblong hole extending at least approximately parallel to said threaded spindle; having further a double arm lever device supported on said adjusting nut, and a second double arm lever device supported on a shaft which is supported in said threaded spindle housing; which first double arm lever device has a first arm which engages said connecting rod and a second arm which is pivotally mounted to a ~~fishplate~~ fishplate, which in turn is pivotally mounted to a first arm of said double arm lever device, onto a second arm of which a connecting rod unit is pivotally mounted which in turn is pivotally mounted to said rocker; having further a pressure spring located between said rocker and said threaded spindle housing and is adapted ~~to a press~~ to press said rocker with a upper roller shaft supported therein and with the first, upper feeding roller against said lower feeding roller shaft with the second, lower feeding roller; said feeding apparatus having a control device and cooperates with a press having a moveable upper tool and a stationary lower tool, which upper tool is mounted to a punch which is moveable between a upper dead center position and a bottom dead center position; and having a press control device which cooperates with said control

feeding apparatus; and in which the oblong hole of the connecting rod which is moveable between a upper dead center position and a bottom dead center position has a upper and a lower end; and in which the first arm of said double arm lever device engages said connecting rod through a bolt which extends through said oblong hole, wherein in order to insert a new strip shaped blank between said upper feeding roller and said lower feeding roller, the upper feeding roller is moved into a high lift position in order to set in this position a predetermined distance between the upper feeding roller and the lower feeding roller.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 4 with the following:

The upper spur gear wheel ~~40~~ 16 is made integrally with the first clamping sleeve portion 18, wherewith a considerable saving on working parts is arrived at.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 17 with the following:

A bolt 43 is inserted in the first arm 41 of the first double arm lever 40. This bolt 43 extends through a oblong hole ~~59~~ 44 in a connecting rod 45.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 4 with the following:

As specifically clearly can be seen in Figure 3, the shaft ~~33~~ 53 projects at one end out of the threaded spindle housing 27 and the second arm 54 is mounted in a clamped state onto this projecting end.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 24 with the following:

Thus, as can be seen, the rocker 14 with the upper feeding roller 8 supported in same

can perform pivoting movements around the shaft 62. Accordingly, the first, upper feeding roller 8 can be moved against the second, lower feeding roller 10 with the metal strip 11 located thereon and is fed in the direction of the arrow ~~13~~ B (see also Figure 10), and away from same.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 3 with the following:

The pressing on force of the pressing spring ~~71~~ 72 is set by means of a threaded spindle in the threaded spindle housing 27.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 28 with the following:

Figure 15 illustrates the first end ~~65~~ 63 of the rocker 14 with the fork tines 88 and 89. The fork tines 88 and 89 are designed symmetrically relative to the longitudinal plane ~~at~~ of symmetry 90 of the rocker 14 in which the partition line 92 extends.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 12 with the following:

By the downwards proceeding movement of the adjusting nut ~~30~~ 39 the first arm 41 of the first double arm lever device 40 is pivoted upwards and its second arm is pivoted downwards. This second arm 42 pulls the first arm 51 of the second double arm lever device 52 also downwards. Conclusively, the second arm 54 of the second double arm lever device 52 is pivoted upwards. Thus, the control rod unit 57-59 is lifted upwards and accordingly the rocker 14 with the first, upper feeding roller 8 supported in the rocker 14 is pivoted into the high lift position of the first, upper feeding roller 8, in which position it is located at the above mentioned distance D at a distance from the second, lower feeding roller 10, so that a

new strip like blank 11 can be inserted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 31 with the following:

This clamping force is produced by the pressing spring 72. Accordingly, the bolt 43 is not to rest any longer against the lower end of the oblong hole 44. In order to achieve this, the adjusting nut 39 is lowered from the high lift position until the first, upper feeding roller 8 rests on the strip shaped blank 11. By a continued lowering movement of the adjusting nut ~~30~~ 39 the first double arm lever 40 is forced to perform a pivoting movement because the rocker does no longer move since the first, upper feeding roller 8 is held resting on the strip shaped blank 11 by the action of the pressing spring 72. Mentioned pivoting movement causes a upwards pivoting of the first arm 41 with the bolt 43, so that the bolt 43 comes to be located in the oblong hole 44 at a position between its ends. This means that the connecting rod 45 can perform basically lifting movements without any influence acting onto the bolt 43.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 9 with the following:

Now, the adjusting nut 39 is moved downwards by a rotating of the threaded spindle 30. Due to this the bolt 43 will come to rest against the lower end of the oblong hole 44. The adjusting nut ~~57~~ 39 is then moved further downwards, so that due to the now occurring pivoting movements of the lever devices and the rocker 14 the first, upper feeding roller 8 lets the strip like blank go freely. In this free state the strip like blank lies loose in a state that it just can be moved manually. This position of the adjusting nut 39 is stored together with the respective angular position in the control devices 85 and 86.